GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3344
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2008
NON-IODIZED SALT
Bellarmin Shri A.V.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to impose a blanket ban on the sale of non-iodized salt;

(b) if so,the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reconsider the said ban in view of its impact on the livelihood of salt pan workers; and

(d) if so,the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be withdrawn?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Government has imposed restrictions on the sale of non-iodized salt for direct human consumption. This notification has been issued under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 with effect from 17th May 2006 in the entire country in order to prevent and control Iodine Deficiency Disorders, as no State /UT is free from IDD. However, there is no ban on the sale of salt for iodization, iron fortification, preservation, industrial medicinal and animal use.

(c) & (d): These restrictions on the sale of non-iodized salt have not affect employment of salt pan workers. In fact, salt iodization has generated more jobs for iodization, crushing/powdering, packing etc.